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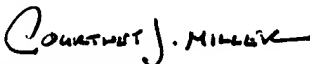
I hereby certify that this AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE is being deposited with the United States Postal Service in an envelope with sufficient postage as Express Mail, addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the following date:

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Courtney J. Miller

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	Ahmed E. Yousef	:	Examiner:	A. J. Weier
Serial No.:	09/954,923	:	Art Unit:	1761
Filed:	05/22/2002	:		
For:	METHODS FOR DECONTAMINATING SHELL EGGS	:	Attorney Docket:	22727 / 04088

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION

I. INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Dear Sir:

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed on 09/25/2003; a Request for a two-month extension of time is filed herewith. Please amend the above-identified application as indicated below. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.